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NATIONWIDE STRIKE CALL FAILS TO DISRUPT PUBLIC ORDER

Government Communique

PY280144 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0030 GMT 28 Apr 79 PY

[Summary] Buenos Aires, 27 Apr (NA)--The Presidential Press Secretariat tonight issued a communique on the results of the call for a strike throughout the nation. Here is the text of the communique:

"In connection with the attempt to paralyze activities in certain factories and sectors of public services in response to the call of the self-styled 'Committee of 25' the Presidential Press Secretariat reports that no disruptions of public order took place, either in the federal capital or greater Buenos Aires, or in the main rural industrial centers.

"In the federal capital, commercial and industrial activities were completely normal, and vehicular passenger transport services operated as usual.

"No closed stores could be seen throughout the entire metropolitan area.

"Banking activities were carried out normally, and the same applies to port loading and unloading.

"Railroads were the only sector that evidenced some changes. Here the absenteeism of General Roca and Bartolome Mitre Railway personnel hampered the movement of persons who normally travel to and from the federal capital. The Belgrano, General Urquiza and General San Martin railways operated on schedule, while the D.F. Sarmiento railway implemented emergency services.

"In greater Buenos Aires, transport, trade and public administration activities were normal. In the industrial sector, absenteeism rates varied, affecting particularly auto industries, meatpacking and paper industries.

"In the interior:

"In Buenos Aires Province, activities were normal with very small absenteeism in some industrial sectors. In Santa Fe Province, transport, trade and public administration work was normal, with negligible absenteeism in the industrial sector. In Mendoza Province, work was normal throughout the various sectors, with small absenteeism in the railways sector. In Entre Rios Province, the people went to their places of work as usual, with some absenteeism in the factories. In Cordoba Province, the working day was normal, with some absenteeism at enterprises that manufacture parts for the auto industry. In the other provinces, the activities were those of a normal working day."

Cordoba Situation

PY272141 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1949 GMT 27 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpts] Cordoba, 27 Apr (NA)--The arrest of Juan Roberto Lupi (Shoemakers Union) raises to 21 the number of union workers arrested for promoting the day of protest here called for today by the Committee of 25, a measure which has elicited practically no response at the large car factories.

Executives of Renault Argentina S.A. have reported that work is normal and the rate of attendance was "excellent," with a variation of only 1 or 2 percent compared to the usual rate.

A union source confirmed that the large automobile factories are operating with their normal complement, with the exception of Ilasa PVC, a subsidiary of Renault Argentina that manufactures seats and frames, where absenteeism reached 95 percent.

Meanwhile, some of the small plants of this capital's industrial belt experienced increased absenteeism, and in some cases the entire work force did not show up. According to reports, the personnel of these plants belong to Metalworkers Union (UOM).

Urban passenger transport services of this capital are completely normal and running on schedule. It should be pointed out that the motor Transport Workers Union (UTA) had issued a communique stating that it would not support the strike.

Downtown stores opened their doors as usual this morning, and activities progressed normally without any type of incident early in the morning.

Detention of Union Leaders

PY280108 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0015 GMT 28 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 27 Apr (NA)--It was officially reported today that 12 of the union leaders arrested on 23 April for calling a strike for today have been placed at the disposal of the executive branch. There was no direct information to this effect, but the names of the union leaders were included in the usual Interior Ministry list of persons arrested or released issued this afternoon.

More on Union Leaders

PY271814 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1720 GMT 27 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Apr (NA)--Federal Judge Norberto Angel Giletta today visited the Caseros jail where the 11 union leaders of the Committee of 25 are under arrest and interrogated them on alleged violations of Law No 21,400, which suspends the constitutional right to strike. After the interrogations, Giletta ordered the trial of six union leaders and held the other five as accomplices.

The judge reportedly also ordered the call of 16 more union leaders, who are free, as accomplices for interrogation next week. The only leader who was not interrogated was Geronimo Izzeta of the Municipal Workers Union, who is ill in the Villa Devoto hospital.

NEW RHODESIAN REGIME WILL NOT BE RECOGNIZED

PY271618 Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 27 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Brazil will not recognize the new Rhodesian Government headed by black Bishop Abel Muzorewa and will hold no official contacts with that country. This Brazilian position is based on denunciations by the United Nations and the Organization for African Unity about the illegality of the election called for by the white Salisbury officials.

STRIKES CONTINUE TO SPREAD THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

Sao Paulo Textile Workers

PY272349 Paris AFP in Spanish 2133 GMT 27 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Sao Paulo, 27 Apr (AFP)--Five thousand textile industry workers at the Rhodia Company, the Sao Paulo subsidiary of the French Rhodia group, today entered their third consecutive day of the strike declared on Wednesday, 25 April. The workers are demanding a 30-percent salary increase effective the end of April, but the directors of the firm are willing to grant only a 15-percent increase, according to Nivaldo Parmejani, president of the Sao Paulo textile industry workers' union. The Rhodia directors are not interested in establishing a dialog with the workers and have asserted their decision to grant only a 15-percent increase, according to the union leader, who also stated that the workers reject this increase.

Rio de Janeiro Doctors

PY270202 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 26 Apr 79 p 1 PY

[Excerpt] Since 120 resident doctors of the IASERJ [Institute for the Assistance of Rio de Janeiro Public Servants] Hospital joined the strike yesterday, and 200 resident doctors of the Pedro Ernesto Hospital (Rio de Janeiro State University) joined it today, there are now 20 hospitals and 1,030 doctors on strike. The resident doctors state that they will continue the strike until they are granted wage increases retroactively as of 16 March, but the state does not intend to do this. Health Secretary Silvio Barbosa da Cruz stated that within 15 days the resident doctors will begin to collect 11,340 cruzeiros, but only staff [efectivos] doctors will be paid retroactively to 16 March.

Brasilia Teachers

PY271715 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1526 GMT 27 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 27 Apr (LATIN)--The Labor Ministry has declared the teachers strike in the federal district illegal, thus clearing the way for the application of punishment which may even include dismissals.

The government measure was announced here last night in a Labor Ministry decree, in which it is pointed out that the constitution "prohibits strikes in public services and essential activities," which includes the official education system in the federal district. About 11,000 teachers in this district today began their fifth day on strike in demand of a 65-percent salary increase. The Education Secretariat has advised that the federal district government is not in a position to improve the salaries immediately, since the necessary funds are not available.

BORDER CLOSED DURING ECUADOREAN ELECTIONS

PA281200 Paris AFP in Spanish 0052 GMT 28 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Ipiales, Colombia, 27 Apr (AFP)--The border between Colombia and Ecuador will be closed at midnight Saturday during elections in that neighboring country, it was announced. Military patrols from the two countries will maintain strict control over the transit of vehicles and persons at this border post in southern Colombia during the elections in Ecuador.

SOMOZA REPORTEDLY OWNS COAL-RICH PROPERTY

PA291225 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2322 GMT 28 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Bogota, 28 Apr (EFE)--Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza owns property in Colombia which may have as much as 1 billion tons of coal. His property is among that owned by Carbones Del Carare, a multinational company with 100 percent private capital that currently owns more than 170,000 hectares.

This revelation, which resulted from a senate investigation, was made public today by Mines and Energy Ministry adviser Jairo Londono Arango. Speaking on Radio Cadena Nacional (RCN), the official disclosed that the Nicaraguan dictator owns nearly 10 percent of Colombia's coal reserves, about 10 billion tons. "Since Colombian law protects foreign investment, those huge resources remain frozen. Nobody can recover them even though they belong to the state," Londono Arango told RCN.

ECOPETROL WORKERS ANNOUNCE STRIKE PLANS

PA272152 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--The general strike of the 7,500 workers of the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise (ECOPETROL) will begin on Monday at midnight to coincide with the celebration of international labor day. A strike committee spokesman told this station that production and refinery plants in Barrancabermeja, Cartagena, Tibu and Cantagallo will come to a halt at midnight on Monday.

Instructions were issued to workers this morning on how the strike will be conducted. Meanwhile, rallies were held this morning in Barrancabermeja where the country's most important petrochemical complex is located. A general assembly of refinery workers was underway in Cartagena at noon and, in Bogota, the enterprise was studying measures to be adopted to cope with the emergency and insure fuel supplies. The government is waiting for the strike to begin in order to summon the arbitration tribunal. A climate of tension was felt in Barrancabermeja at noon in the wake of the announced ECOPETROL strike. The city and ECOPETROL facilities have been militarized. However, the public order situation is normal so far, according to reports from the port by station correspondent Ivan Daniel Martinez.

The government announced today that it has mechanisms available to keep the various ECOPETROL plants operational to preclude an eventual fuel shortage resulting from the strike. Mines and Energy Minister Alberto Vasquez Restrepo admitted that some difficulties might arise but, as a result of the experience gained in previous strikes, mechanisms will be adopted to insure an adequate fuel supply. One mechanism would be to operate the plants with personnel who do not go on strike, the mines minister said. For the moment, he dismissed the possibility of hiring additional personnel to face the emergency and confirmed that if the strike is staged, it will be illegal. The minister admitted that ECOPETROL workers have demonstrated their intransigence by insisting on reinstating those laid off in 1977 and he reiterated the government's willingness to include this as a bargaining point.

LABOR MINISTER REPORTS ON LABOR SITUATION

PA271445 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Bogota--Labor Minister Rodrigo Marin Bernal reported a major release of tension in the social climate in the country when he announced agreements at Purina and the Social Security Institute and the resumption of talks at Paz Del Rio. The satisfactory report was made by the labor minister last night as he went into a regular council of ministers meeting which focused on the labor picture in Colombia.

The minister made the following statements: [Begin Marin Bernal recording] Today's labor events are important factors which contribute to the restoration of the climate of social peace, which had been altered in view of the discussion of several lists of petitions in important areas of the national economy. The settlement we have reached between the Purina union and the firm's legal representatives will permit workers to return to work tomorrow and restore the normal flow of supplies to the food concentrate market, removing the threat hanging over the national poultry industry. Also, I just signed the final papers ending the discussion of the list of petitions presented by the (MASEP) union, which groups about 19,000 workers. This also clears the way for this important union.

GOVERNMENT REFUTES ANDI PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTS

PA281303 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Bogota--The government reported today that there is no strangling of the country's economy and defended the handling of its monetary policy while the financial and managerial sectors discussed statements made by Favio Echeverri Correa, president of the National Industrialists Association [ANDI]. Without trying to enter into polemics, Acting Finance Minister Guillermo Nunez Vergara today repeated the statements made on Tuesday regarding the true conduct of the monetary policy and the placing of development and regular loans in productive activities, thus maintaining that the restrictive monetary measures have not been excessive and that there is no economic strangling. The financial sector, however, fully backed the ANDI statement on the need to completely change the economic policy and create conditions to encourage productive investments by the private sector.

GUERRILLA REFUGEE LEAVES FOR FRANCE

PA290404 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0257 GMT 29 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 28 Apr (EFE)--Guerrilla Marco Antonio Velandia, a refugee who remained inside the French Embassy in Bogota for 35 days, left today for France amid strict security measures. Two French officials escorted Velandia, who claims to be a member of the subversive M-19 movement, from the embassy to El Dorado International Airport where he boarded the plane to Paris.

According to the military intelligence services, Velandia was a member of the group who on the morning of 19 April 1976 killed kidnaped labor leader Jose Raquel Mercado, then president of the Confederation of Workers of Colombia (CTC). While Velandia was staying at the embassy, awaiting his safe-conduct to leave the country, the government expressed its displeasure with the fact that he is just a common criminal rather than a political refugee. Nonetheless, the Foreign Ministry last week decided to grant Velandia a safe-conduct after making it clear that he is nothing but a common criminal.

JAIME ROLDOS CLAIMS VICTORY IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

PA301334 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 30 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Populist candidate Jaime Roldos won yesterday's elections in Ecuador by a wide margin. He has offered to form a genuinely democratic government and to seek equilibrium between economic development and social justice.

Roldos, candidate for the Concentration of Popular Forces, has a strong lead over his main contender, center-rightist candidate Sixto Duran Ballen, with half of the votes tallied. The National Secretariat of Public Information reports that Roldos has 815,362 votes compared to Duran Ballen's 356,460, with 145,000 blank and annuled votes, representing over 60 percent of votes counted [as heard].

Yesterday's elections marked Ecuador's return to democracy after 9 years of dictatorship. Roldos, a 38-year-old lawyer from Guayaquil, has been a national deputy and president of the Ecuadorean Federation of University Students and the Ecuadorean Bar Association. His campaign slogan was "The Strength of Change." He promised to redistribute the country's wealth more equitably if elected president.

Duran Ballen, candidate of the National Front Coalition, had based his campaign on respect for property and private initiative.

During his proclamation over television, Roldos expressed his recognition of the armed forces which, he said, have kept their word of honor and have not been swayed by coupist attempts.

We are not here in the name of hatred or social retaliation. We extend our hand to all Ecuadoreans. My government will respect pluralism and man, the winning candidate said. Democracy grants social justice, and I will fight for man to feel as man's brother, Roldos said.

Roldos claimed an overwhelming victory in yesterday's presidential elections. He did so in Guayaquil at dawn today.

LITTLE VIOLENCE REPORTED DURING PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

PA290103 Paris AFP in Spanish 2247 GMT 28 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Quito, 28 Apr (AFP)--Only 3 incidents in which 10 persons were wounded were registered during the presidential and legislative electoral campaign which closed on Friday and which should determine tomorrow the new Ecuadorean president and the composition of his Congress, it was said here today. The campaign for the second presidential round lasted 130 days, while the legislative campaign lasted only 60 days.

The first incident between supporters of the populist Jaime Roldos and architect Sixto Duran Ballen of the Constitutional Front occurred on 7 April in Arenilla, on the Peruvian border. Five persons were shot during the clash. The second incident occurred last Wednesday night in a neighborhood in Guayaquil, Ecuador's most densely populated city. Members of the Concentration of Popular Forces [CFP], headed by Asaad Bucaram, clashed with members of the Institutional Democratic Coalition Party led by former President Otto Arosemena Gomez. The two leaders are national congressional candidates. Five people were shot in the clash. The latest incident also occurred in Guayaquil, last Thursday night. Members of the Constitutional Front supporting the candidacy of Duran Ballen and the CFP, which supports populist Roldos, had a shootout in which no one was wounded.

PAP CONGRESS POSTPONED; HAYA'S HEALTH REPORTEDLY WORSENS

PAP Communique

PA272205 Paris AFP in Spanish 1920 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Lima, 27 Apr (AFP)--The Peruvian Aprist Party [PAP] denied here this afternoon that its leader, Victor Raul Haya de la Torre, had had a stroke, but added that due to their leader's health, the party's congress had been postponed. In a communique denying "the groundless and alarming reports that have been circulating" about the 84-year-old Haya's health, the Collective General Secretariat and the Political Committee affirmed that "the patient's health continues to improve and he is responding positively to treatment."

The politician, who has been resting, returned recently from a hospital in Houston, where he stayed for more than 1 month due to a lung ailment. It was reported last night that complications had arisen, but his party denied this report.

Haya, who presides over the Constituent Assembly, has not attended any of its sessions since returning from Houston. It had already been announced that he would begin attending them, as well as the PAP congress, which had been originally scheduled to take place on 5 May but was postponed today until some future date.

The PAP communique did not specify when the congress will be held, but it indicated that it had been postponed "in order to insure full participation by the chief and founder" of the party.

U.S. Hospitalization Report

PA281923 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1618 GMT 28 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpts] Lima, 28 Apr (EFE)--Victor Raul Haya de la Torre, president of the Peruvian Constituent Assembly and leader of the Aprist Party of Peru, today made an emergency trip to the United States after suffering an alleged relapse in his condition. The octogenarian political leader will reportedly be hospitalized at the Anderson Tumor Hospital, which specializes in the treatment of cancer. He had been hospitalized there from 10 March to 7 April. A brief communique indicated that Haya will be undergoing "new medical checks." He left this morning for Miami, from where he will go to Houston.

PAP Denial

PA281924 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1724 GMT 28 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Lima, 28 Apr (EFE)--The Aprist Party of Peru [PAP] today denied a report that Victor Raul Haya de la Torre, PAP leader and president of the Peruvian Constituent Assembly, had traveled to the United States for medical treatment. The alleged trip by the political leader was announced this morning by a Lima radio station in two bulletins. The radio station even provided details of the octogenarian leader's departure. It said that he left aboard an Aeroperu plane for Miami, from where he would go to Houston. Jorge Diez Canseco, PAP national coordinator for publicity, indicated that the reports are false and that Haya de la Torre is at his residence in the outskirts of Lima. He said that Haya de la Torre was continuing the normal process of convalescence.

FINANCIAL COOPERATION MECHANISM PROPOSED TO OPEC

PA271850 Caracas Radio Rumbos in Spanish 1530 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti has announced that Venezuela will propose the creation of a new mechanism for financial cooperation with the third World countries. He said that the proposal will be made to OPEC in (?June).

Calderon added that, proportionally, within OPEC Venezuela has granted the largest amount of financial assistance to Third World countries, and more specifically to Central America. He stressed that Venezuela has been implementing a number of cooperation programs with Third World countries.

HIGHER PETROLEUM EXPORT PRICES ANNOUNCED

PA281605 Caracas VENPRES Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Caracas, 27 Apr (VENPRES)--Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti today told newsmen that the export price of a barrel of petroleum will be 16.80 bolivares [as received]. He said that the joint resolution of the Energy and Mines and Finance ministries setting the new export prices will appear in the official gazette today. The minister said that the calculations were made by commissions made up of the two ministries and that the new price is considered well balanced and very positive for the country's development.

Calderon Berti said that the last export price had been a little over 13.00 bolivares a barrel. The current one of 16.80 bolivares is a result of the latest OPEC meeting in Geneva. This will permit part of the 7 billion bolivares obtained from the increase of petroleum prices to pass to the national treasury, he said. The minister added that the Venezuelan Petroleum Company (PETROVEN) will also receive part of this 7 billion bolivares obtained from the increase of petroleum prices to pass to the national treasury.

RELATIVES OF POLITICAL PRISONERS STAGE PROTEST

PA271912 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 1530 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Relatives of political prisoners who have been pardoned by the government are staging a demonstration in front of Radio Rumbos at this moment. The demonstrators gathered at [name indistinct] avenue and walked to the San Carlos Jail to demand the final release of the prisoners pardoned by the government.

The demonstrators are demanding that the political prisoners be released immediately. The decrees granting the pardon were published in the official Gazette on Monday and the demonstrators claim that today, 5 days after the publication, the prisoners have not been released. Students and workers accompanied the relatives of the prisoners in the demonstration. Spokesmen for them said that there is no justification for the fact that the prisoners at San Carlos Jail have not yet been released.

PRESIDENT ROYO'S LETTER TO CARTER ON TREATY

PA282010 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 28 Apr 79 pp 1-A, 10-A PA

[Letter from President Aristides Royo to President James Carter; delivered to U.S. Ambassador Terence Todman in Spain on 27 April 1979]

[Text] Dear Mr President:

I have the honor of cordially greeting you while at the same time voicing the concern with which the people and government of the Republic of Panama have viewed certain events that have taken place in the process of implementing the 1977 Canal treaty and its annexes. Before making any observations on this, it is fitting to recall certain previous considerations.

On 7 September 1977, during a ceremony held at the OAS headquarters, you, President Carter, and Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera, then chief of government of Panama, signed the aforementioned instruments. They were ratified a few weeks after a plebiscite during which the Panamanian people freely ratified them by an ample majority vote. Once the U.S. Senate gave you its advice and consented to ratification of the treaties, the exchange of ratification instruments took place in this city during a ceremony which was attended by several presidents and diplomatic representatives from Latin American countries. On that occasion you were able to see the profound feeling of joy with which the people of my country turned out to see the ceremony. That feeling bore witness to the fact that the people were certain in their minds that the treaties were a decisive stage in the long struggle for full national independence and effective Panamanian sovereignty over the entire national territory. More than hope, it meant the certainty that a new relationship, based on mutual respect and equality to insure the operation of the interoceanic waterway, was beginning between the two countries.

All that, Mr President, is in very serious jeopardy right now, which could lead to another phase of controversial relations between our two nations. Such a disheartening prospect, Mr President, can stem only from the events I have referred to in the opening lines of this letter. My administration has carefully followed the couse of the debates on the treaty implementation bills in the House of Representatives committees. I must tell you in all honesty that we feel that the spirit of those bills runs contrary to the spirit, objectives and goals of the 1977 Canal treaty. I must also tell you that we feel that many of the approved provisions explicitly and implicitly run counter to the clear-cut, specific and unequivocal stipulations of the treaty which recognize the inalienable rights of the Republic of Panama as a sovereign and independent state and as an associate of the United States of America in the operation, administration and defense of the interoceanic canal. These obviously serious contentions can be sustained by my government in detail and at the appropriate time.

I must also tell you that the Panamanian Government is fully aware of the responsibilities that it assumed by reaching and ratifying the 1977 Canal treaty and its annexes. With equal clarity I must tell you that the Panamanian Government will not accept as valid any treaty implementation legislative provision which explicitly or implicity violates, contradicts or modifies the treaty not only to the detriment of my country but with perhaps irreparable damage to the spirit, goals and objectives of a convention which put the patience of the Panamanian people to a long and hard test before it was reached. Even though I do not want to make pessimistic predictions, Mr President, I very clearly forsee the profound frustration which may already have begun to invade the conscience of the Panamanian people when they learned from the media the events that led to this letter and guessed at the possible results and significance.

EDUCATION MINISTRY APPEALS TO STUDENTS

PA272126 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2043 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Panama Education Ministry communique issued on 27 April]

[Excerpt] The Education Ministry, in charge of national education, has, in view of recent events in which students have participated, [words indistinct] public opinion its deep concern over the manner in which events have developed.

We believe students have every right to express their views on the country's social and economic problems. We have respected student demonstrations because we feel they are of great importance to civic and personal development. Our history includes conquests gained by the various student generations. Notwithstanding the acknowledged need for the students' responsible participation, we hereby express our disapproval of the use of violence, which has characterized events during these past days and which has led to vandalism and a threat to the community.

We also denounce the interference of persons alien to the student movement who intend to divert it from its real objectives. We believe that the occasion calls for an appeal to good sense of all members of the educational system, especially Panamanian students, so as to restore the orderly climate required for the serene discussion of national problems. If this climate is not attained, the Education Ministry will find itself compelled to apply formulas that will guarantee the return to the normal conditions essential to the educational process as required for the country's socioeconomic development.

Suspension of Classes

PA291812 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1740 GMT 29 Apr 79 PA

[Text of 29 April Education Ministry communique]

[Text] After analyzing the latest incidents and in view of its responsibility to safeguard the students and contribute to the tranquillity of the community, the Education Ministry has decided to suspend the classes in the country's public and private schools on Monday, 30 April. The ministry will continue the dialog with school principals, student and teachers associations and parents in order to foster the appropriate conditions for the normal evolution of the education process.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEETS WITH U.S. SENATOR

PA281403 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Vice President Ricardo de la Espriella, acting president, met at noon today with Michigan Democratic Senator Carl Levin and U.S. Ambassador Ambler Moss Jr and discussed matters related to the implementation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties which the U.S. Congress is currently discussing.

BRIEFS

PETROLEUM IMPORT FIGURES--Panama imported crude petroleum valued at 59.5 million balboas during the first quarter of this year. This represented 4.2 million barrels of petroleum at an average price of 14.27 balboas per barrel. In March, the price increase forced Panama to pay 15.78 balboas per barrel. Export of petroleum byproducts to traditional customers in the United States, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic decreased considerably during this same quarter. [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 28 Apr 79 PA]

COSTA RICA

ICE ANNOUNCES END OF ELECTRICITY RATIONING

PA281339 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Apr 79 PA

[Text] The Costa Rican Institute of Electricity [ICE] has issued the following announcement: The ICE is pleased to inform the country that since it is once again able to generate all the electric power demanded by the national grid system, the rationing of electricity in its distribution system is suspended beginning today. It will also supply the other distributing companies with sufficient energy so that they can take the same step. Once again, the ICE thanks Costa Ricans for their effective cooperation during the recent emergency.

EL SALVADOR

WARDEN DIES IN CLASH WITH FARN UNIT

PA280433 Paris AFP in Spanish 0312 GMT 28 Apr 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 27 Apr (AFP)--It has been announced here that the warden of San Francisco Gotera jail was killed today during a clash with members of the clandestine Armed Forces of National Resistance (FARN). A FARN unit attacked Jose Tomas Calderon while he was riding in an ambulance with an alleged participant in the kidnaping and execution of Japanese industrialist Fujio Matsumoto. The guerrillas, who sought to release prisoner Augusto Carranza Parada, were repelled by guards who were accompanying the ambulance.

It has been recalled here that the FARN claimed credit for the Japanese industrialist's kidnaping and execution, which occurred in May 1978, in a number of clandestine communiques which explained that the Salvadoran Government had refused to fulfill the conditions imposed to release him. These conditions included the release of all political prisoners. The government denies it is holding political prisoners.

FAPU TERRORISTS SHOOT NIGHT WATCHMAN

PA281205 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2304 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 27 Apr (LATIN)--Members of the self-styled United Popular Action Front [FAPU] murdered a night watchman today when he tried to prevent the placing of subversive propaganda on walls in the northeastern part of this city, police revealed. The attackers killed the watchman after having taken his gun. According to the police, the FAPU has been active for the past 4 years, concentrating its activities on the occupation of public buildings and companies where strikes or similar movements were taking place.

GUATEMALA

CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMY MINISTERS MEET IN GUATEMALA

PA280331 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2245 GMT 26 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 26 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--The Central American economy ministers inaugurated here today a 2-day meeting to find a formula that will allow the five regional countries to successfully confront the increase in petroleum prices. Joint purchases from Venezuela or Mexico and installation of a refinery to process petroleum obtained in the region or purchased abroad were mentioned as alternatives to decrease the impact of the petroleum price increase on the region's economy.

The ministers will also analyze the expansion of the lists of products imported from outside the region which benefit from tax exemptions. Another matter to be analyzed by the region's economy ministers is the creation of a Central American bloc at the fifth UNCTAD meeting to be held on 7 May in Manila, Phillipines.

SIXTY-EIGHT MURDERS REPORTED THIS WEEK

PA290209 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1811 GMT 28 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 28 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Sixty-eight Guatemalans were murdered this week, Police Director General Col German Chupina reported today. According to police data, most of the murders were common criminals stabbed or shot by the death squad. Col Chupina said that some murders were the result of struggles between criminal gangs. Two, three, five or seven bodies of persons killed by unidentified persons appear daily in Guatemala. When the police identify the bodies, they are found to be common criminals with long records of arrests. Chupina said that the police strive to maintain law and order but that common and political crimes have increased in recent years in this country.

NICARAGUA

ALL C.A. COMMON MARKET DEMANDS TO BE MET

PA271545 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Managua--Roberto Incer Barquero, president of the Central Bank of Nicaragua, yesterday reaffirmed that Nicaragua will meet all monetary commitments with the Central American Common Market. The statement was made in view of recent comments by some Costa Rican officials to the effect that the devaluation of the Nicaragua cordoba ordered on 8 April has affected regional trade.

SANDINISTS CRITICIZE SPANISH AID TO SOMOZA

PA281446 Paris AFP in Spanish 1029 GMT 28 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Madrid, 28 Apr (AFP)--In an interview published today in the Madrid newspaper EL PAIS, two Sandinist leaders criticized what they described as Spain's aid to the Nicaraguan regime of President Somoza. In an interview granted "somewhere" in Central America, Sandinist leaders Humberto Ortega and Eden Pastora indicated that "Spain should withdraw its ambassador in Managua and break its diplomatic relations with Nicaragua as Great Britain has already done."

They added that "they do not understand why the Madrid Government has helped and, we believe, continues to help, Somoza since the jeeps, cetme rifles and grenades used by the National Guard to massacre the people are Spanish." They conclude by noting that "the people and government which will replace Somoza will be resentful toward Spain if it does not adopt a clear position regarding the dictator."

CONSERVATIVE PARTY PRESIDENT RESIGNS

PA280355 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 27 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Legislators of the Nicaraguan Conservative Party [PCN], a minority represented in Gen Anastasio Somoza's administration, have preferred to accept the resignation of their party's president rather than resign the seats they hold in the National Congress. Alvaro Chamorro Mora resigned the party's presidency when Conservative deputies and senators refused to give up their seats in congress as a protest against President Somoza's administration.

CONSERVATIVE STATEMENT ANALYZES SITUATION

PA282108 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1754 GMT 28 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 28 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan Conservative Party [PCN], the only opposition group legally recognized by the government, today, warned that the current "armed violence" could "abruptly lead to a military coup which the party rejects and is trying to avoid at all costs."

In a lengthy statement the party, which plays the role of minority opposition to Gen Anastasio Somoza's government, analyzed events "in the economic field as well as in the area of armed violence, which continues to claim a regrettable toll of bloodshed in our long-suffering fatherland." The party indicated that armed violence "is not going to overthrow the Somoza government" and that "the popular rebellion which certain Marxist groups are attempting to lead is very far from becoming a reality because of historic and sociological reasons."

NO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ALONG MANAGUA HIGHWAY

PA271502 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Managua--There is no public transportation available in the cities of Masaya, Jinotepe, Masatepe, Catarina, Niquinchomo, Diria, Diriomo and others situated along the Managua-Granada Highway, 45 km south of Managua. Many shops in the areas have also closed, for lack of customers. In Leon, 90 km west of Managua, there is no public transportation and the schools are closed in view of a strike which began 3 days ago.

MINISTER CONFIRMS RULING ON RADIO CORPORACION

PA281419 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2220 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpts] Managua, 27 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Nicaraguan Government Minister Jose Antonio Mora Rostran confirmed the ruling of the National Radio and Television Directorate ordering the closing of Radio Corporacion for 3 months.

The suspension, plus a 2,000 cordoba ($200) fine, imposed by Radio and Television Chief Col Alberto Luna was set because of an alleged violation of the law which regulates the country's radio and television journalism popularly known as the Black Code. The station's owners still have the right to present an appeal to the Supreme Court but they have not revealed if they would resort to this step.

INTENSIVE FIGHTING BREAKS OUT IN LEON

PA292302 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2206 GMT 29 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Leon, Nicaragua, 29 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Intensive fighting between National Guard troops and columns of the guerrilla Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] has been occurring in this western Nicaraguan city since 1230 (1730 GMT).

Two hours after the fighting broke out, the fighting had spread to almost all districts in this city. Apparently the most intensive fighting is occurring in the San Felipe District. When the ACAN-EFE correspondent questioned San Vicente Hospital, the Leon Chapter of the Nicaraguan Red Cross and the fire department, they replied that they had no information on the extent of the fighting or of the casualties suffered by either side. The lack of guarantees prevents these public service institutions from leaving their bases to aid the soldiers or guerrillas.

Fighting Over; Two Dead

PA300155 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0035 GMT 30 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 30 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--The shooting which began today shortly after midday in Leon ceased at nightfall. It caused an unspecified number of casualties in the city located 92 km west of Managua. A witness told ACAN-EFE tonight that in downtown Leon he had seen the bodies of two civilians lying in the street. These were the only two casualties reported as a result of the confrontations between soldiers posted in this city in western Nicaragua and fighters of the Sandinist National Liberation Front. It was learned that the fighting began in the San Juan District and then concentrated in the San Felipe District, both located in the northern part of the city.

SANDINIST COMMANDER CERO DISCUSSES VARIOUS ISSUES

PA290040 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 26 Apr 79 p 9-B PA

[Excerpts] [Question] You are better known by your military actions and related statements than by your political or ideological declarations. Regarding them, Panama lives under the influence of the Americans, who call anybody who rebels against the establishment a communist. Are you a communist, a Marxist-Leninist, a socialist or what?

[Answer] Actually, I am an antimilitarist [civilista]. Furthermore, I am a businessman who has been rich on three different occasions and poor on four. Therefore, I believe I fall more within the framework of that which is usually known as a democrat. The tyrant (Somoza) has made us push our antimilitarist ideals aside in order to wield weapons as soldiers, even if we are only improvised soldiers. Obviously, we are politicians, since we are carrying out a political action. But, doctrinally, we are Sandinists. We follow Sandino's philosophy, which advocates nationalism and the defense of the Nicaraguan people's rights. We would only move close to Russian, Chinese or Cuban communism if, at the end of our struggle, we did not receive, from the so-called democratic nations, the help we will need to reconstruct Nicaragua, as was the case with Fidel Castro.

[Question] It has been mentioned in several circles that the Sandinists' new and abundant weapons have been provided by either Castro or Communist China. Is that so?

[Answer] I went to Fidel to ask for help and he told me: "The best help I can give you is not to help you at all." This made us seek new formulas that would enable us to obtain the weapons we now use. We bought them on the European black market. It is not true that the Chinese weapons that Somoza showed as having been seized from us were donated by any communist country. We bought them in Europe, where they can be bought on the arms market.

[Question] There are many examples demonstrating that when revolutionary struggles are victorious, they conduct such bloody purges among those defeated that on numerous occasions they bear no relationship to the crime of which these people are accused. The more recent example is Iran, where partisans of the deposed shah are being executed daily. If the Sandinist movement is victorious, will it similarly punish the defeated forces?

[Answer] We know that at the end of the struggle many of Somoza's assassins will escape with him and we will not be able to try them. The people will have to decide what to do with those that remain. There is a sector among the National Guard against whom no measures would be taken. But we do not believe that the fatherland will be better reconstructed by executing even more Nicaraguans, as has been the casein Iran.

FOREIGN MINISTER MALMIERCA CONTINUES CSSR VISIT

FL281503 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 28 Apr 79 FL

[Text] The foreign ministers of Cuba and Czechoslovakia, Isidoro Malmierca and Bohuslav Chnoupek, have called the nonalined countries movement an important force in the solution of many international problems. Malmierca, who arrived in Prague last Thursday on an official and friendly visit, held a round of talks with his Czechoslovak counterpart on Friday. Earlier in the day, Malmierca was received by President of the Republic Gustav Husak, with whom he discussed multilateral cooperation between the two countries and matters of international interest.

PARTY TALKS WITH YUGOSLAV DELEGATION END

FL281549 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1426 GMT 28 Apr 79 FL

[Text] The talks between the delegations of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and the PCC Central Committee concluded yesterday. Aleksandar Grlickov, member of the Presidium of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, headed the visiting delegation, and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo, the Cuban. The exchange of viewpoints between the two organizations included topics dealing with the present situation of the nonalined countries movement and preparations for its sixth summit conference, which will take place in Havana from 3 to 6 September of this year. The delegations of the Yugoslav and Cuban Communists also discussed some aspects of the international situation and bilateral relations.

During the talks, the two sides examined the situation of the nonalined countries movement and its future developments. The two sides also reiterated the need for continuing to work in favor of strengthening the movement's unity based on the fundamental and original principles. The delegations agreed on the convenience of maintaining contacts for exchanging viewpoints as part of the process of consultations that Cuba, the host nation of the sixth summit conference, is conducting with nonalined countries.

During their stay in our country, Grlickov and those accompanying him visited various centers of historic, economic and social interest in Havana City and the Isle of Youth.

CEMA SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL MEETING CONCLUDES

FL281401 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Apr 79 FL

[Text] The CEMA Scientific-Technical Council meeting on protection against radiation, which met in this capital, concluded last night with the signing of a protocol. The document was signed by the heads of Delegations from Hungary, the GDR, the USSR, Poland, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Cuba and the CEMA Secretariat. The document provides for cooperation of member countries in the sphere of protection against radiation for the 1981-1985 5-year period.

CEMA AGRICULTURE, FOODSTUFFS PROTOCOL SIGNED

FL271154 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 27 Apr 79 FL

[Text] At the end of the fifth meeting of the CEMA Planning Committee working group on agriculture and the food industry, a protocol was signed by the country delegation heads participating in the meetings.

The document reports on the advances made in accordance with multilateral cooperation in developing agricultural-livestock measures in Cuba and Mongolia.

With regards to Cuba, the protocol refers to developing complete sugar and citrus programs over the long term. The meeting of the CEMA Planning Committee working group drafting long-term cooperation in agriculture and the food industry was attended by delegates from the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Mongolia, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Cuba as well as a CEMA Secretariat representation. The Socialist Republic of Vietnam attended as a guest.

CABRIZAS CALLS GEPLACEA MEETING RESULTS GOOD

FL271224 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 27 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Ricardo Cabrizas, head of the Cuban delegation to the 10th meeting of the economic group of Latin American and Caribbean Sugar Exporting Countries (GEPLACEA), said the results of that meeting which will conclude today in Buenos Aires, Argentina, were good. Cabrizas, who is Cuban vice foreign trade minister, told PRENSA LATINA that all the countries at the meeting agreed that the international sugar agreement has been effective in normalizing the international sugar market. He added that the meeting also agreed that the agreement will be much more effective once the economic clauses are fully operational, which will happen when it is ratified by the U.S. Congress. The head of the Cuban delegation recalled that the international sugar agreement was the result of setting up the rights and obligations of exporters and importers that took place at the international sugar conference held in Geneva in 1977.

L.A., CARIBBEAN SUGAR CONFERENCE OPENS IN HAVANA

FL281909 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1849 GMT 28 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Under the watchword "To Struggle United for a Just Sugar Price," a conference of agricultural and industrial workers of the sugar industy in Latin America and the Caribbean has opened in Havana City. Representatives from Guyana, Colombia, Martinique, the Dominican Republic, Peru, El Salvador, Guatemala, Puerto Rico, Panama, Venezuela, Jamaica, Trinidad, Uruguay, Costa Rica, the United States and Cuba are attending the conference.

Jose Ramirez Cruz, president of the National Association of Small Farmers [ANAP], and Ursinio Rojas, secretary general of the International Food Industry Trade Union, both members of the PCC Central Committee, chaired the opening session. Luis Martell Roasas, secretary general of the Cuban Sugar Industry Workers Trade Union, read the main report to the conference, which is scheduled to end day after tomorrow, Monday, with the signing of a final resolution.

BULGARIAN PARTICIPATION IN SOCIALIST EMULATION

FL271253 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 27 Apr 79 FL

[Excerpt] On Thursday morning, 26 April, Bulgarian Ambassador Boyko Dimitrov presented Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, a document in which the Bulgarian collectives in Cuba report to Comrade Fidel on the results of their participation in the socialist emulation that was held in our country on the occasion of the 20th anniversary [of the Cuban Revolution]. The report states that the pledge was to complete 2,050 tasks, but that this was surpassed by the completion of 3,850--especially in technical designs and plans underway; and economic systems, methods and analyses directed at the socioeconomic development of Cuba.

GRENADA

BISHOP INTERVIEWED ON U.S. RELATIONS, OTHER TOPICS

FL281320 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 23 Apr 79 p 4 FL

[Text] Saint Georges, Grenada (CANA)--Much to the chagrin of the United States, the month-old Peoples Revolutionary Government in Grenada has gone ahead and established formal diplomatic relations with Cuba.

PRG leader Maurice Bishop, who came to power in a coup that toppled Sir Eric Gairy's government on March 13, disclosed his intention to firm up relations with Havana at a victory rally on Sunday, April 8. Since then, the United States has said it would be displeased with the new Grenada regime if it embraced Cuba too warmly. But it was clear at the victory rally that the PRG had already made up its mind about its choice of friends.

Following the rally, the general manager of the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY, Mr Harry Mayers, interviewed Prime Minister Bishop about his problems and plans. Following is a text of the interview:

Mayers: Mr. Bishop, you have come to power in a rather unconventional way in the English-speaking Caribbean. When you were in the opposition, you had certain ideas on how the country should be run. Have these ideas changed? What are your priorities and your problems?

Bishop: In broad terms, I would say that the views we have always held in terms of the need for democratising our society and revolutionising the structures of the state and the economy remain broadly the same.

The question of pace at which these things are achieved and exactly how, the forms and methods that will be used--I am sure those have undergone changes in terms of our own development.

In terms of the problems, the two major areas of problems would be first the question of national security, because we have to move to consolidate our revolution and there is a serious external threat posed by Gairy's attempt abroad to try to recruit mercenaries. There is also a potential internal problem in that a number of secret police types are still out there, and a number of people who should not, do have guns in their possession. And therefore, this national security question....That is by far the number one problem, priorities on that question obviously will be in relation to strengthening in the sense of getting new recruits, getting better arms and getting better training for the members of the Peoples Revolutionary Army.

Mayers: You have in fact asked for arms and military training from Britain, Canada, the U.S.A., Venezuela, CARICOM and Cuba. What would be the situation for you if you had affirmative responses from two or three simultaneously?

Bishop: We do not see any problem unless the problem arises because the two or three that in fact used to agree find that they are unable to work with each other. We do not have any problem in dealing with more than one country in this area.

Mayers: I was trying to visualise Cuban and United States assistance coming at the same time.

Bishop: I don't think that we would find it a great problem--certainly not in the area of the receipt of arms, anyhow.

Mayers: You have been emphasising defence and security, and you have spoken about the possibility of sabotage generally. What sort of problems have you had with the supply of food-stuff, for example.

Bishop: We have been receiving supplies, though we have had a problem with one importer who more or less had a monopoly in the area in the importation of rice. He decided he was unable to off-load the consignment of the docks. What we did, we decided in fact to give him a certain period of time to make up his mind, and when he did not move, the government took it over. And we have now decided in fact that rice will be the first commodity that our newly established National Importing Board is going to import and sell directly to the wholesalers.

Mayers: And is rice any cheaper?

Bishop: It has gone down by five cents from 69 cents to 64 cents a pound.

Mayers: [as published] At this point, the only other commodity is brown sugar. We intend to make a relatively slow start in that area and to develop the necessary infrastructure first of all.

Mayers: At what price you think brown sugar would be sold?

Bishop: I couldn't give you a figure off hand. Minister of Finance Bernard Coard would probably have a better idea. I am not dead certain myself how much of a difference. There will be a quite dramatic reduction.

Mayers: What's the strength of the PRA, the Peoples Revolutionary Army, now and how much training have they had?

Bishop: They number several hundreds. I could not give you an exact figure, (A) because it is a security consideration but (B) because at this point in time we are still in any event constantly reshuffling numbers and pruning our people and getting new recruits and that sort of thing. It is a situation of almost daily flux. So far as the training side is concerned, we have had some training by some of the people who were themselves in a position to train people who have some basic training in the past presently within the PRA. They have been passing on what they know.

Mayers: I presume that this is a mere handful.

Bishop: That is a mere handful, yes. That is one of the reasons why we are in fact requesting further training.

Mayers: What is the position with people who are holding unauthorized arms. What has been the response to your request for holders of unauthorised arms to turn them in.

Bishop: On the question of unauthorized arms, there has as yet (interview date April 9) been no response. What has happened instead is that some people who have been holding arms in an authorised manner have brought in their own arms. But so far as those people out there--and there certainly are people out there who have illegal arms--they have not yet come forward.

This is why we were trying to give a few of them amnesty, so that we could try in a sense to do this thing in the most amicable way possible.

Mayers: Would you consider extending the amnesty?

Bishop: I don't think any useful purpose would be served by that so far as the unauthorised arms are concerned. It is clear to me that from Tuesday, from tomorrow, we are going to have to go and start looking in places where we suspect and in some cases reasonably know that arms are being stored.

Mayers: The next question concerns the return of constitutional rule. How soon do you think the country can return to constitutional rule?

Bishop: I couldn't give you an answer in terms of "X" months or "Y" days. What I can tell you is that it is a concern that we have. We are anxious to have that situation sorted out. Basically what we are doing at this point is to set the necessary processes in motion that would achieve that goal. For example, we intend to start a general enumeration of people over 18 years in our country, possibly within the next two to three weeks.

We have now drafted the necessary laws. They should be gazetted some time this week. The Electoral Commission that will replace the one-man supervisor of elections under the old system has also been appointed and they ought to be able to start their work within the next two weeks.

Mayers: You have no time table for a return to constitutional rule, but what methods will you use for that return?

Bishop: I think that the way in which we are going to approach this question will be essentially two-fold. On the one hand, as I have said before, we intend to start the process of an enumeration of persons over the page of 18. That obviously will lay the basis for fair and free election at any given moment. The second is that we intend to establish a consultative assembly which would be looking at the question of a new constitution and getting involved in wide ranging discussion at the grass roots levels, at the level or organisations in the middle strata, businessmen and so on, the unusual type thing. [as published] That is going to consider in a serious on-going way for quite a few months the whole question of what sort of constitution an independent, or rather a free Grenada ought to have. Possibly at the end of that process, a return to what is usually regarded as constitutional rule would have been determined. But it is not impossible that even before the process ends that elections are held.

Mayers: We at CANA received a report from Antigua quoting a source in the Antigua Cabinet as saying that the Eastern Caribbean governments would recognise the government in Grenada if an assurance came from Saint George's on plans to hold elections in the foreseeable future. Would you make a comment on that?

Bishop: Our friends in the Eastern Caribbean, quite frankly, do not matter where recognition is concerned. They are not even in a position to recognise themselves. They are not independent. HMG (Her Majesty's Government) speaks on their behalf, and the question of whether or not they choose to accord recognition is quite frankly totally irrelevant. We don't even believe they can give recognition in the first place. Our position is this: We insist on our right to run the internal affairs of our own country. We are a sovereign independent country. We are not going to compromise the principles that we stand for or the integrity of our revolution.

We are not going to be dictated to by outside forces about what we should do and when we should do it. We respect their own rights to their own internal affairs; they are going to have to respect ours. So we do not accept any deadline of any sort from any of our friends in the Caribbean.

Mayers: While that position must certainly be respected, don't you foresee some problems in the Caribbean brotherhood in the Community, where some countries may say "we are not sitting with you at the same regional meeting."

Bishop: I am sure they will settle down. They may be some of that initially. We have no doubt that some of that maneuvering has gone on in relation to at least one meeting that has been cancelled. That will just be an act of childlishness; it will be highly infantile. We have no doubt at all that it will settle down. People will come to grips with the fact that there is a new reality, that they will have to deal with us as such a reality.

There are things that are happening in some of these countries that we are not happy with. Does that mean that we are going to say that we will not sit with them? Clearly not. The reality is that if we are going to be thinking seriously of forging a Caribbean nation--or even without moving as far as that--of just developing closer ties at economic integration and political integration level, then we are going to have to respect each other and accept each other for what we are. And there is no way that we are able to tell the people of Antigua, or Saint Kitts or Saint Lucia or Saint Vincent or any of the rest that they must do so and so, and if they don't do so and so we can't talk to them....They will have to accept that what we led was a popular revolution, that there was and there is mass jubilation in our country as the result of the overthrow of the dictatorship and they have to come to grips with that. It is as simple as that. They have no choice.

WORLD PEACE COUNCIL SUPPORTS REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT

FL281449 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 28 Apr 79 FL

[Text] The World Peace Council [WPC] has approved a resolution of support for Grenada's new government and has condemned preparations being made for an imminent military aggression against that island's people. In view of what could become a serious conflict in the Caribbean area, the fighters for peace from the five continents have expressed their full solidary support for Grenada's people and new government, the document states.

The WPC meeting has also agreed to send an urgent message to the United Nations, denouncing imperialism's maneuvers in that area of the Caribbean.